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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
9 AT SEATTLE

10 PREDRAG TOSIC,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 HEATHER BLAKEMORE-  
14 TOMASON,

15 Defendant.

CASE NO. C23-0619JLR

ORDER

16 Before the court is Plaintiff Predrag Tasic's motion for clarification regarding  
17 "minute orders and some other procedural matters." (Mot. (Dkt. # 13).) The court has  
18 reviewed Mr. Tasic's request and, for the reasons stated herein, DENIES it.

19 In his motion, Mr. Tasic ostensibly responds to the court's April 28, 2023 Minute  
20 Order ordering Mr. Tasic to cure certain filing deficiencies. (*See* 4/28/23 Min. Order  
21 (Dkt. # 3) (ordering Mr. Tasic to file a copy of the operative complaint).) Mr. Tasic asks  
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1 the court to clarify which of his state court pleadings is the operative complaint and poses  
2 a litany of other procedural and legal questions regarding his case. (*See generally* Mot.)

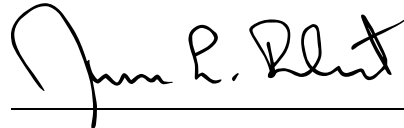
3 The court, however, cannot give legal advice to *pro se* parties, except to  
4 recommend they seek the advice of a trained attorney. The United States Supreme Court  
5 has concluded that “[d]istrict judges have no obligation to act as counsel or paralegal to  
6 *pro se* litigants,” because requiring federal district judges to explain the details of federal  
7 procedure or act as a *pro se* litigant’s counsel “would undermine district judges’ role as  
8 impartial decisionmakers.” *Pliler v. Ford*, 542 U.S. 225, 231 (2004); *see also Jacobsen*  
9 *v. Filler*, 790 F.2d 1362, 1365-66 (9th Cir. 1986) (noting that advising *pro se* litigants  
10 would make the court “a player in the adversary process rather than remaining its  
11 referee”).<sup>1</sup>

12 The court therefore DENIES Mr. Tosic’s motion for clarification (Dkt. # 13) and  
13 recommends that Mr. Tosic seek the advice of a trained attorney and review this  
14 District’s Pro Se Guide. *See* W.D. Wash., *Pro Se Guide to Filing Your Lawsuit in*  
15 *Federal Court* (rev’d April 2023),  
16 [https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/sites/wawd/files/ProSeGuidetoFilingYourLawsuitinFede](https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/sites/wawd/files/ProSeGuidetoFilingYourLawsuitinFederalCourt.pdf)  
17 [ralCourt.pdf](https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/sites/wawd/files/ProSeGuidetoFilingYourLawsuitinFederalCourt.pdf).

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20 <sup>1</sup> *See also, e.g., United States ex rel. Dahlstrom v. Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe of Wash.*,  
21 No. C16-0052JLR, 2020 WL 949940 (W.D. Wash. Feb. 27, 2020) (denying *pro se* party’s  
22 request for legal advice); *Ellenwood v. Dep’t of Corr. Mental/Medical Health*, No.  
C08-5197FDB, 2008 WL 2323926, at \*2 (W.D. Wash. June 5, 2008) (same); *Hopper v. Wigen*,  
No. C05-5662FDB, 2006 WL 166360, at \*1 n.1 (W.D. Wash. June 9, 2006) (same).

1 Dated this 10th day of May, 2023.

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4 JAMES L. ROBART  
5 United States District Judge  
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